



**Update**  
**Rep. Marlin Stutzman (R-IN)**  
**February 26, 2014**

**SUPREME COURT:** On February 24, the Supreme Court denied without comment three petitions for clarity on the right to carry guns in public for self defense.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, these petitions raised whether 18-21 year olds could be prohibited from purchasing or carrying guns solely based on their age and whether consumers have standing to challenge the constitutionality of restrictions on gun sales (e.g., the prohibition on interstate sales). A petition for a writ of certiorari in the case of *Drake v. Jerejian*, which was supported by an amicus brief signed last week by 34 MOCs and 8 of 21 Members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Initiative, may still be considered. Thanks to Congressman George Holding for leading that effort.

**CALIFORNIA:** Concealed carry is winning in the courts. Two of the largest counties in California, Orange County and San Diego County, are now taking the “shall-issue” approach to concealed carry permits.<sup>2</sup> On February 13, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in *Peruta v. San Diego* that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment guarantees the right to carry a gun in public, and that laws requiring non-prohibited citizens to prove need or good cause in order to qualify for a concealed carry permit (“may-issue”) infringed on that right.

**BLOOMBERG:** Former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg’s anti-gun group Mayors Against Illegal Guns (MAIG) has lost 15% of its members since late 2012, falling from 1,046 mayors down to 885.<sup>3</sup> The integrity of the group’s data analysis may be a contributing factor. Economist and gun crime expert John Lott Jr. analyzed their most recent report and highlighted some of their most misleading claims:<sup>4</sup>

*“They claimed that 44 shootings occurred in schools and colleges nationwide since the Newtown, CT massacre on Dec. 14, 2012 and Feb. 10, 2014. Out of the 44 shootings, a total of 28 died. To dramatize their numbers, Bloomberg’s groups emphasized that one of these attacks occurred every 10 days.*

*“But their statistics are not what they seem. Included in the numbers are suicides. Also included are late night shootings taking place in school parking lots, on their grounds or even off school property, often involving gangs. As ‘shootings,’ they also include any incident where shots were fired, even when nobody was injured.”*

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.scotusblog.com/2014/02/court-denies-gun-rights-cases/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.guns.com/2014/02/22/san-diego-declines-appeal-peruta-accepting-applications-shall-issue/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://washingtonexaminer.com/161-mayor-members-flee-michael-bloombergs-anti-gun-group-a-15-crash/article/2543646>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2014/02/17/bloomberg-latest-stats-on-school-gun-violence-ignore-reality/>